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30 December 1950

The Honorable F. J. Lawton
Director
Bureau of the Budget
Executive Office of the President
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Lawton:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of 26 December 1950 requesting the views of this Agency on the subject of establishing a board similar to the Defense Communications Board or the Board of War Communications of the World War II years.

In order to avoid confusion relative to the position of this Agency, I am enclosing a copy of a letter dated 24 November 1950 to the Chairman of the President's Communications Policy Board in response to what appears to be a similar inquiry. I have designated representatives who are presently engaged in discussions with the President's Communications Policy Board on this subject.

As indicated in the enclosure, this Agency feels that an independent government agency should be established to coordinate and supervise communications facilities in the interests of national security. The details of composition, status and responsibility of such an agency should, I believe, be determined through coordination with and between those departments and agencies of the Government having a primary interest in the communications field.

Sincerely,

WALTER B. SMITH
Director

Encl.

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